Schemes under implementation for making India slum free

1583. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the various schemes under implementation aiming at making India slum-free in the next five years;

(b) the estimated slum population in the country as per latest data available;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted to know the percentage of urban population living in slums; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The Government has announced the launching of a new scheme called Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) for the slum dwellers and the urban poor. The goal of the scheme is to create Slum-free Urban India. It envisaged dovetailing the following schemes under implementation: Affordable Housing in Partnership and Interest Subsidy for Housing the Urban Poor and extending support under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) to States that are willing to assign property rights to people living in slum areas. JNNURM is under implementation since 3rd December 2005. The components of Basic Services for the Urban Poor (BSUP) and Integrated Housing and Slum Development Porgramme (IHSDP) under JNNURM, address the provision of land tenure, affordable housing, water, sanitation and other basic amenities to the urban poor, especially slum-dwellers.

(b) to (d) The 2001 Census conducted Slum survey for 640 Towns with more than '50,000 Population. Subsequently, at the request of Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, enumeration was done for 1103 Towns with population between 20,000 and 50,000. These 1743 Towns reported a slum population of about 52 million, i.e. 23.5 percent of population.

Deadline for abolishing scavenging

1584. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has further extended the deadline for abolishing manual scavenging to March, 2010;

(b) if so, whether Government has also proposed to create a database of 1,15,000 scavengers identified for rehabilitation schemes; and

(c) the proposed incentives in terms of loans and vocational training envisaged under the rehabilitation scheme for scavengers?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The Scheme of Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS) is being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The Scheme started in January,

2007, aimed at rehabilitation of remaining manual scavengers and their dependents in a time bound manner, by March, 2009. In view of the substantial number of beneficiaries remained to be rehabilitated as on 31.3.2009, the target of rehabilitation of the work has been extended upto 31st March, 2010.

(b) The implementing agencies have been requested by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment to prepare a detailed database of all the beneficiaries under the scheme.

(c) Assistance to beneficiaries for their rehabilitation under the Scheme, include mainly three components:-

(i) Training:- Scheme covers cost of training to beneficiaries for a period upto one year. Trainees are also provided stipend @ Rs.1000 per month during the entire period of training.

(ii) Capital Subsidy:- 50% capital subsidy is provided for projects upto Rs.25,000, For projects above 25,000, capital subsidy @ 25% is provided subject to minimum of Rs. 12,500 and maximum of Rs.20,000.

(iii) Interest Subsidy:- Interest Subsidy is provided to meet the difference between the rate of interest charged by the Bank and the rates of interest under the scheme (4% to 6% per annum) to reduce the interest liability of beneficiaries.

Increase in population in cities

†1585. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that population has increased rapidly in cities in the country during recent years but the fundamental and infrastructural facilities have not developed proportionately;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the schemes undertaken to provide basic facilities to slum dwellers of the cities especially in metropolitan cities of the country have been successful and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of Slums Act, 2001 and whether there is any need to make amendments in it and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. As per the Census of India data, the trend in urban population in the country is as under:

Year	Population
1981	159.72 million
1991	217.63 million
2001	286.15 million

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi